

FNS WIC Research Update

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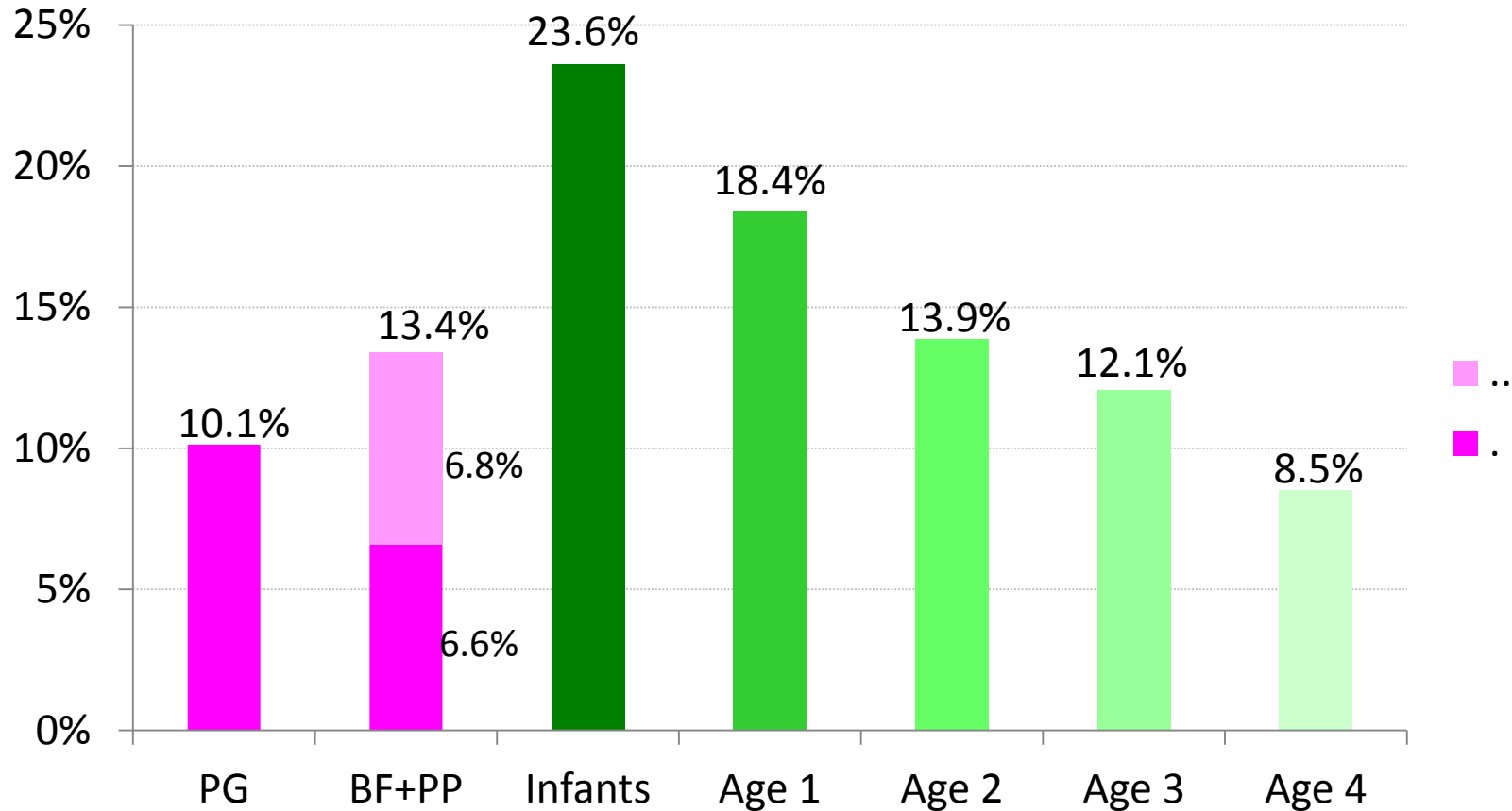
Presentation Themes

*We would **like** to be able to say that*

■ Sound scientific research shows that:

1. WIC is exceptionally well targeted
2. WIC has a high level of program integrity
3. WIC participation is associated with valuable health impacts

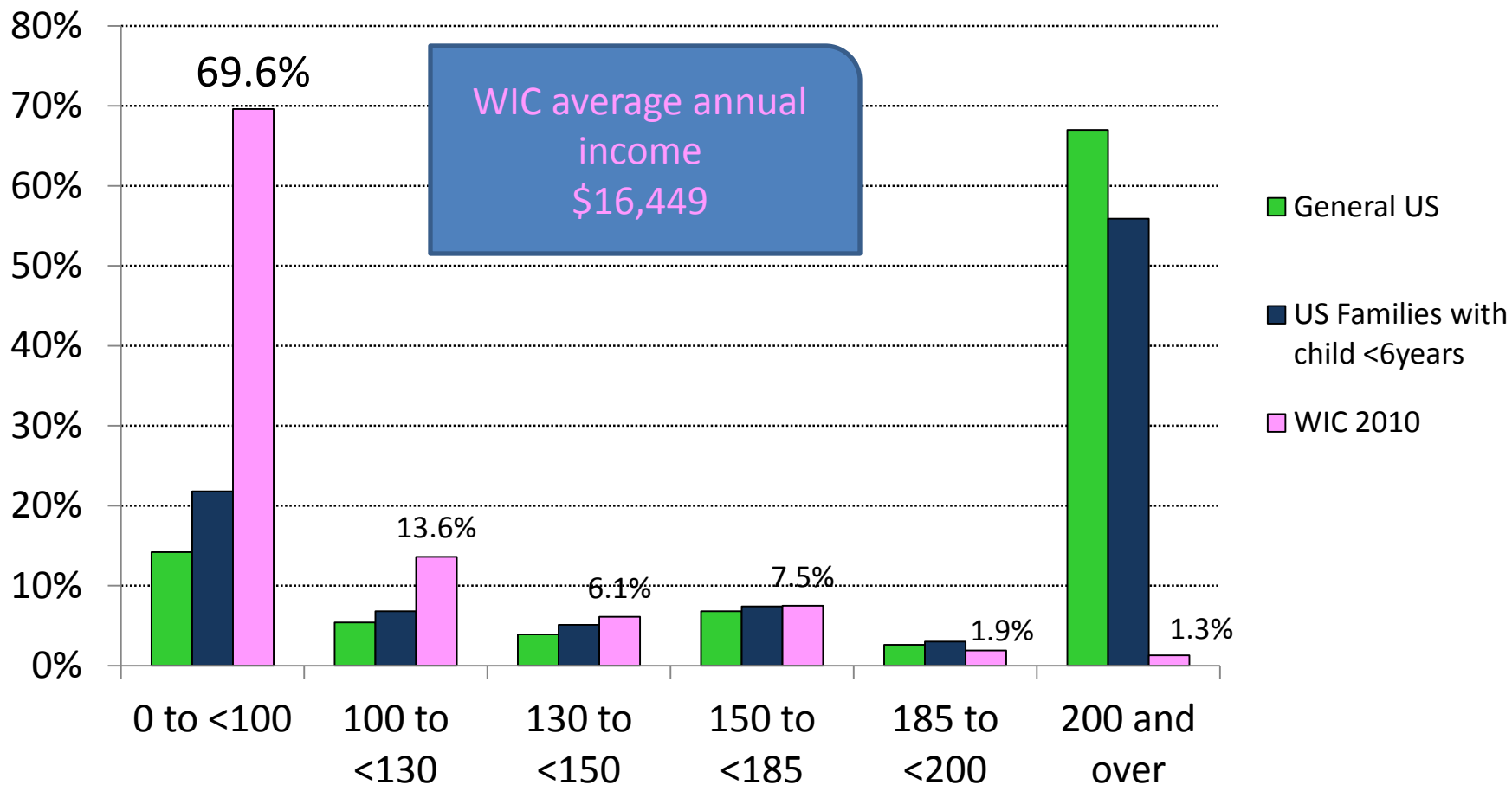
WIC is exceptionally well targeted... by age of participant



Source: WIC PC2010

WIC is exceptionally well targeted...

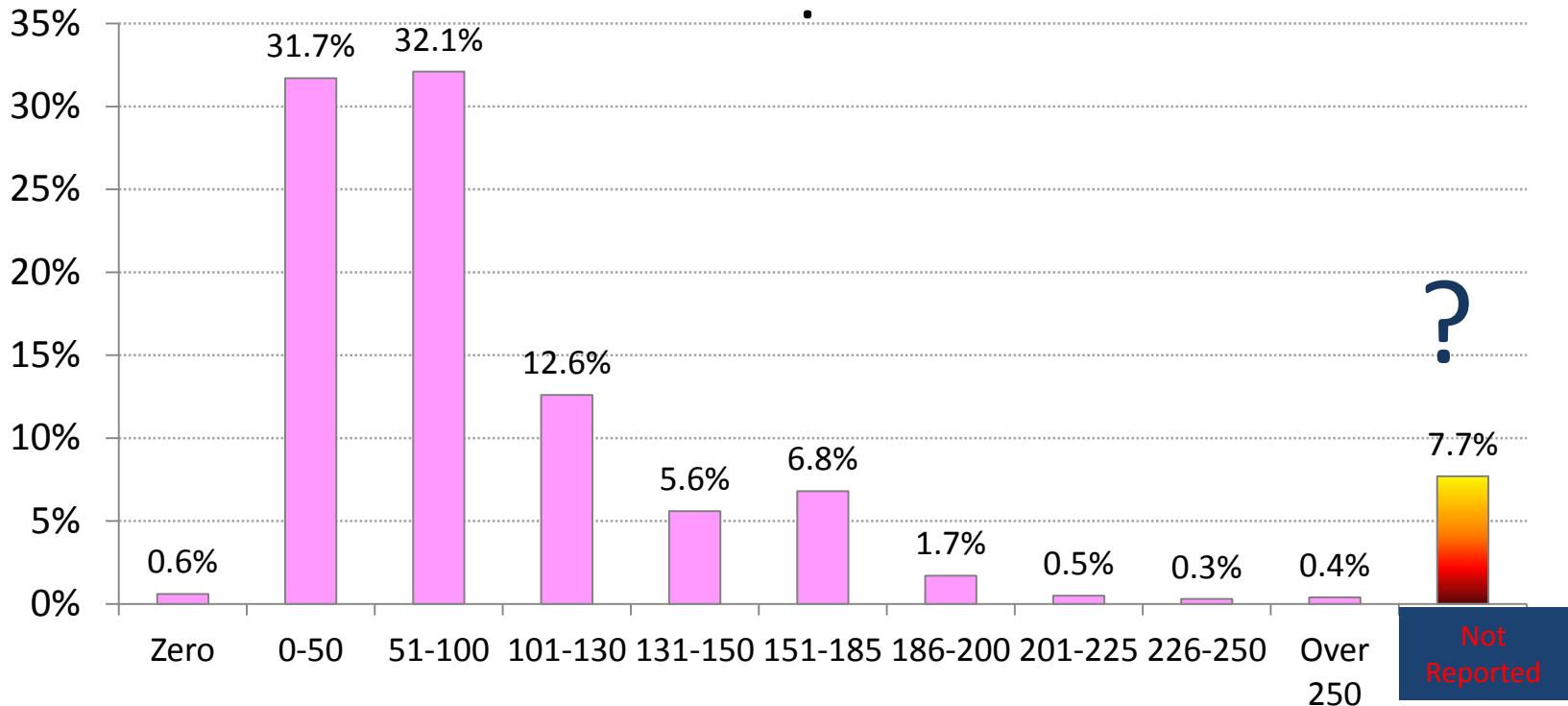
*Almost 70% of WIC participants are below poverty at certification**



* Source: WIC PC2010 Exhibit 3.11, p.48, *among those reporting*

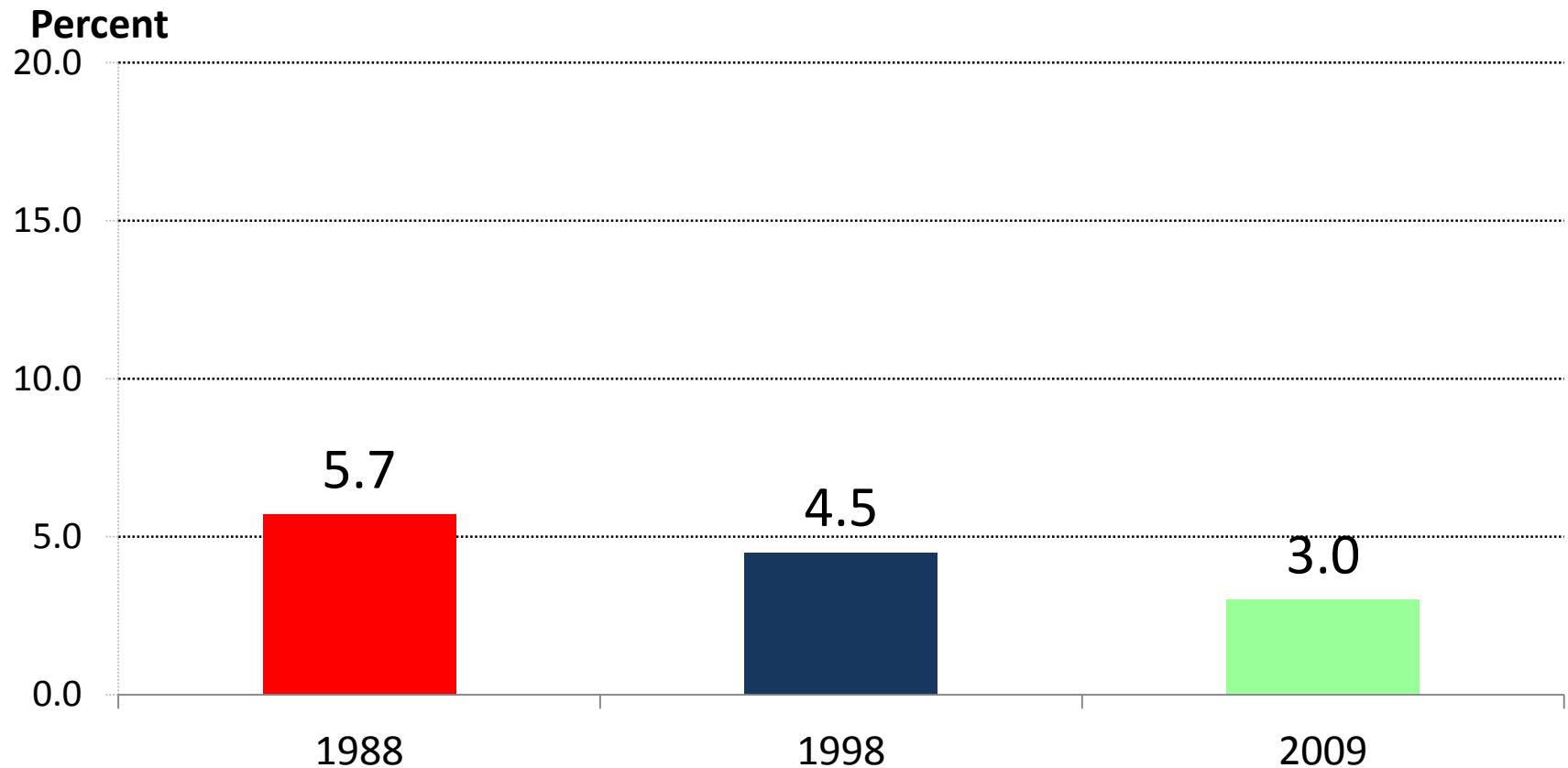
WIC is exceptionally well targeted...

However, lack of data on 7.7% of participants weakens the point

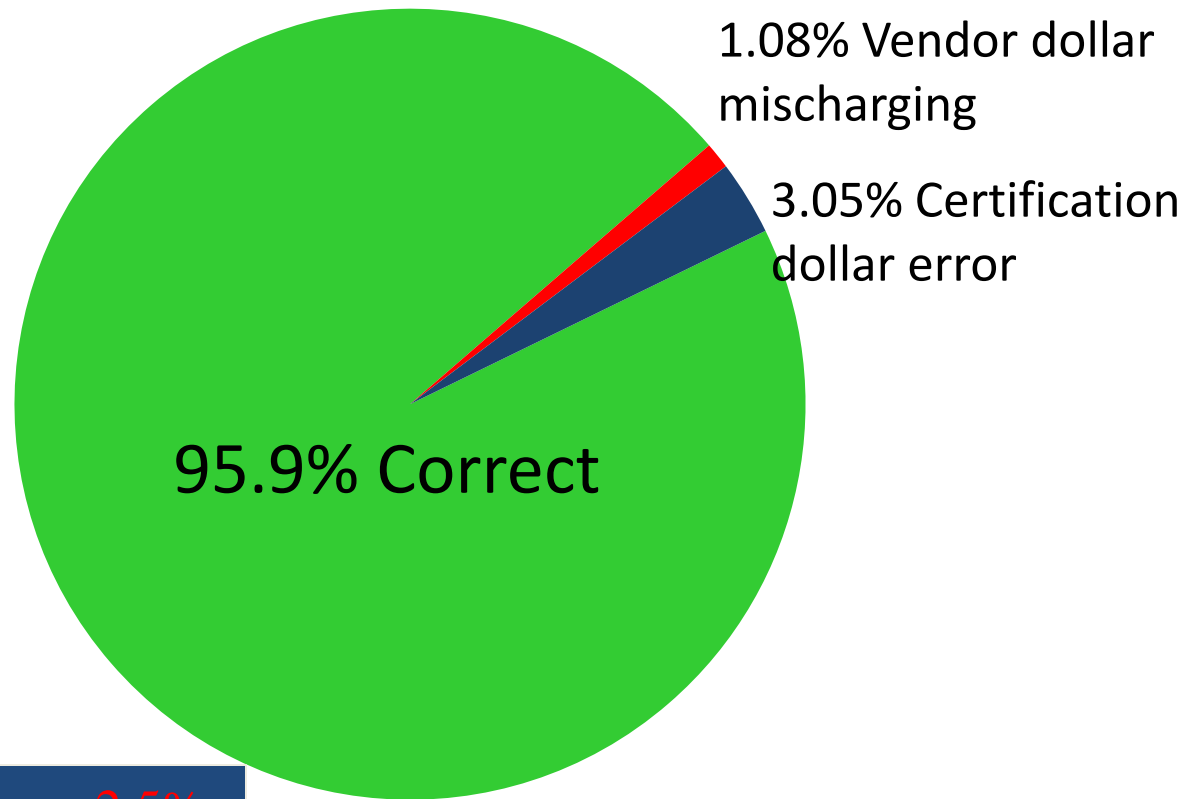


WIC has a high level of program integrity...

Certification case error rate at an all-time low



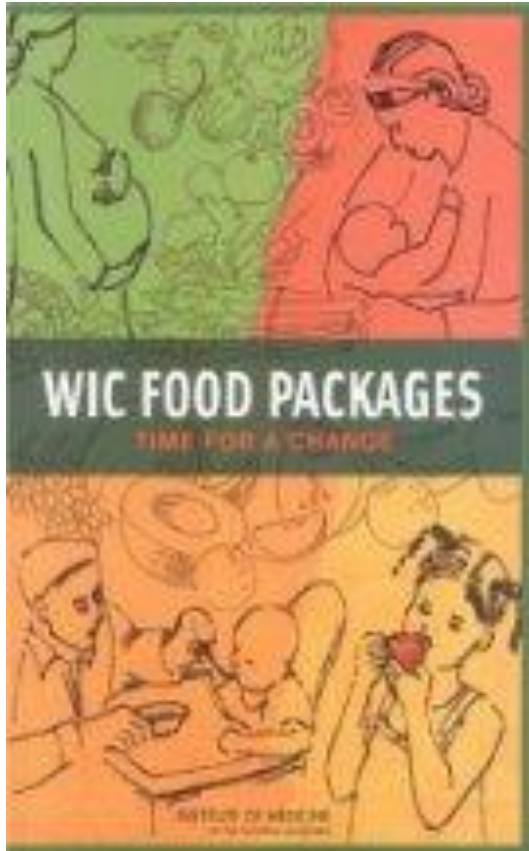
WIC has a high level of program integrity...
96% of total benefit dollars correctly delivered



But Congress considers >2.5%
as “significant error”

WIC has a high level of program integrity...

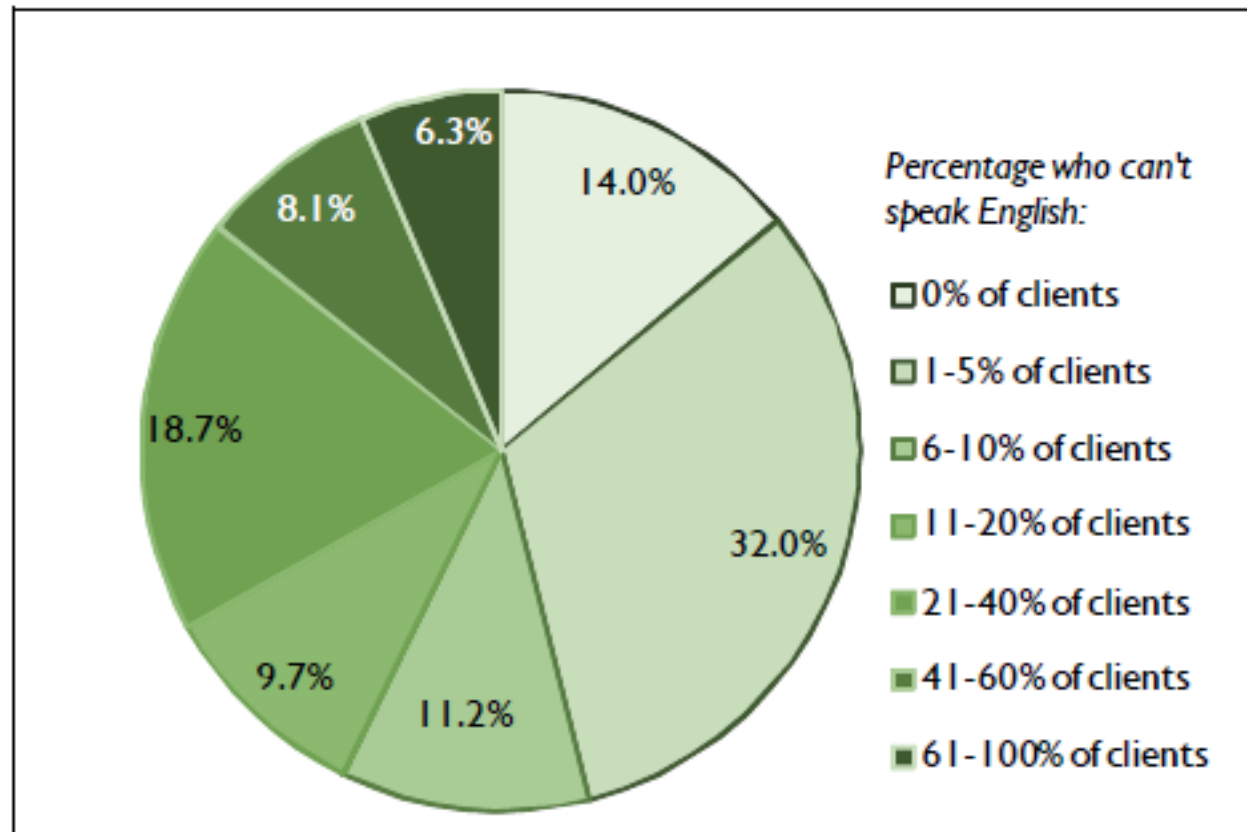
In updating food benefits



- The WIC food package changes were informed by
 - science,
 - scientific experts,
 - policy experts, and
 - public input
- The impacts of a critical component have been evaluated: *The WIC Birth Month Study*

Significant numbers of WIC participants cannot communicate in English

Exhibit 4-15: Percentage of WIC Participants Who Cannot Communicate in English

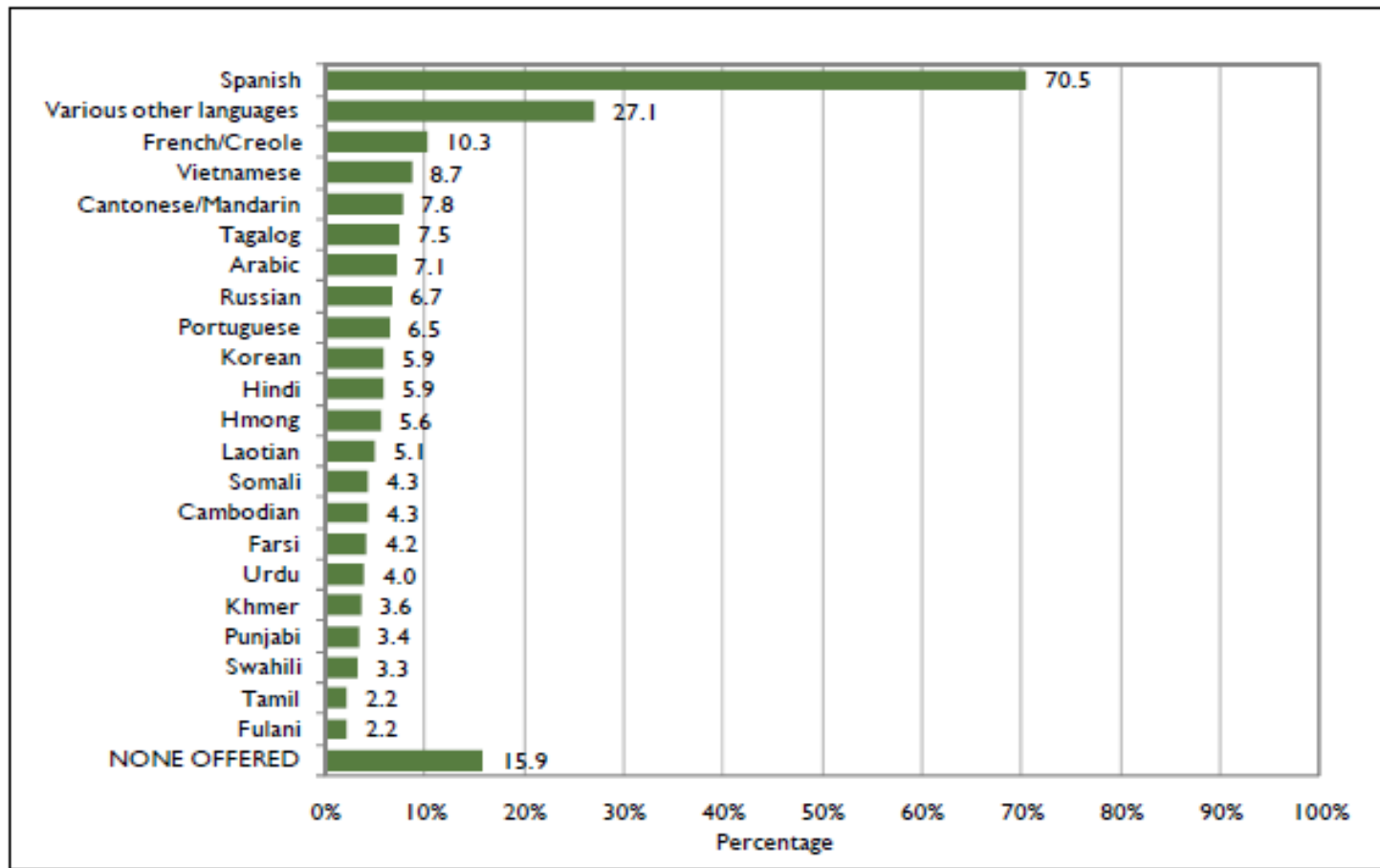


n=503

Source: National Survey of WIC Participants II: State and Local Agencies Report

WIC provides services in many languages

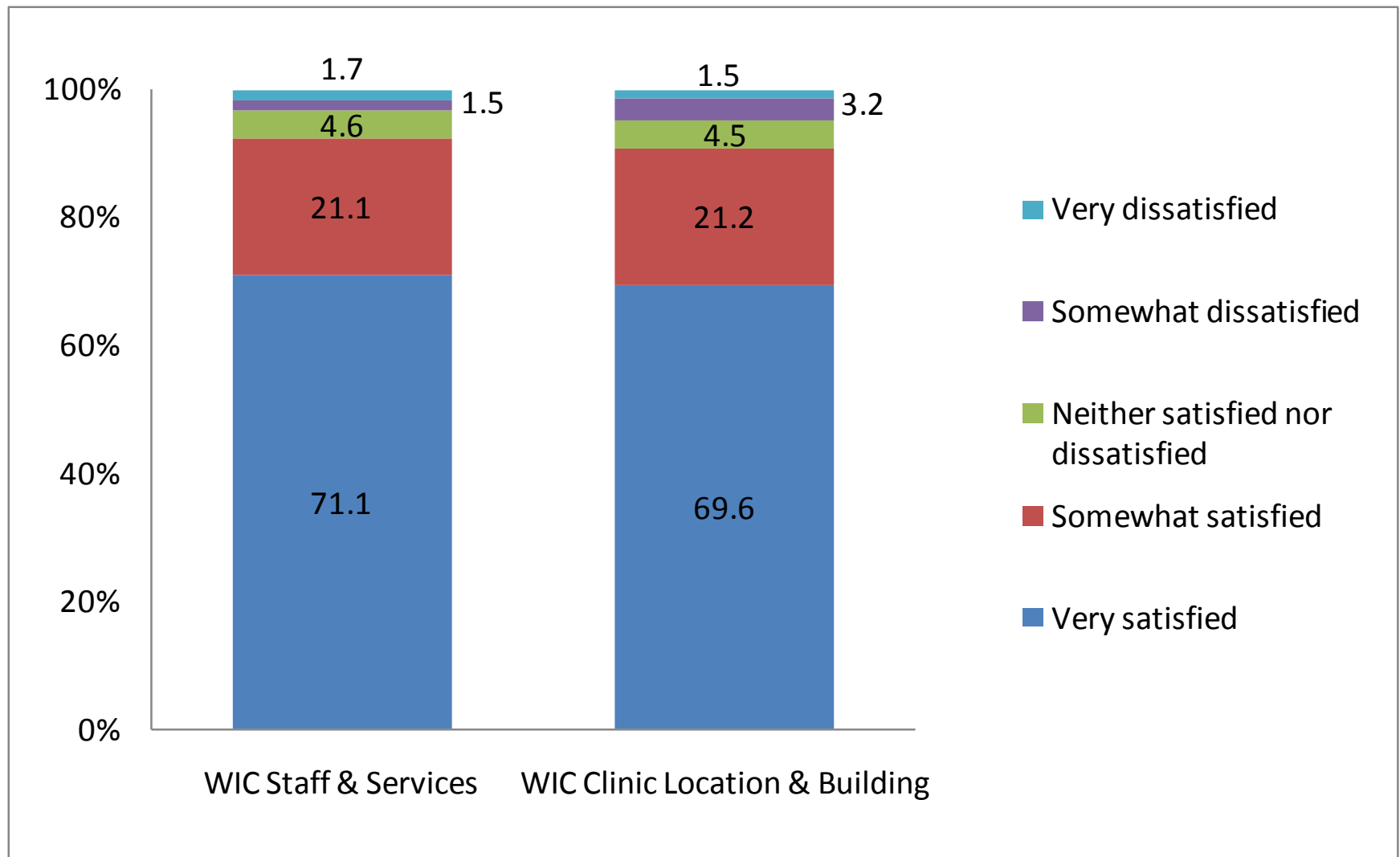
Exhibit 4-16: Foreign Languages Offered by Local WIC Agency Staff
(in Descending Order)



n=503

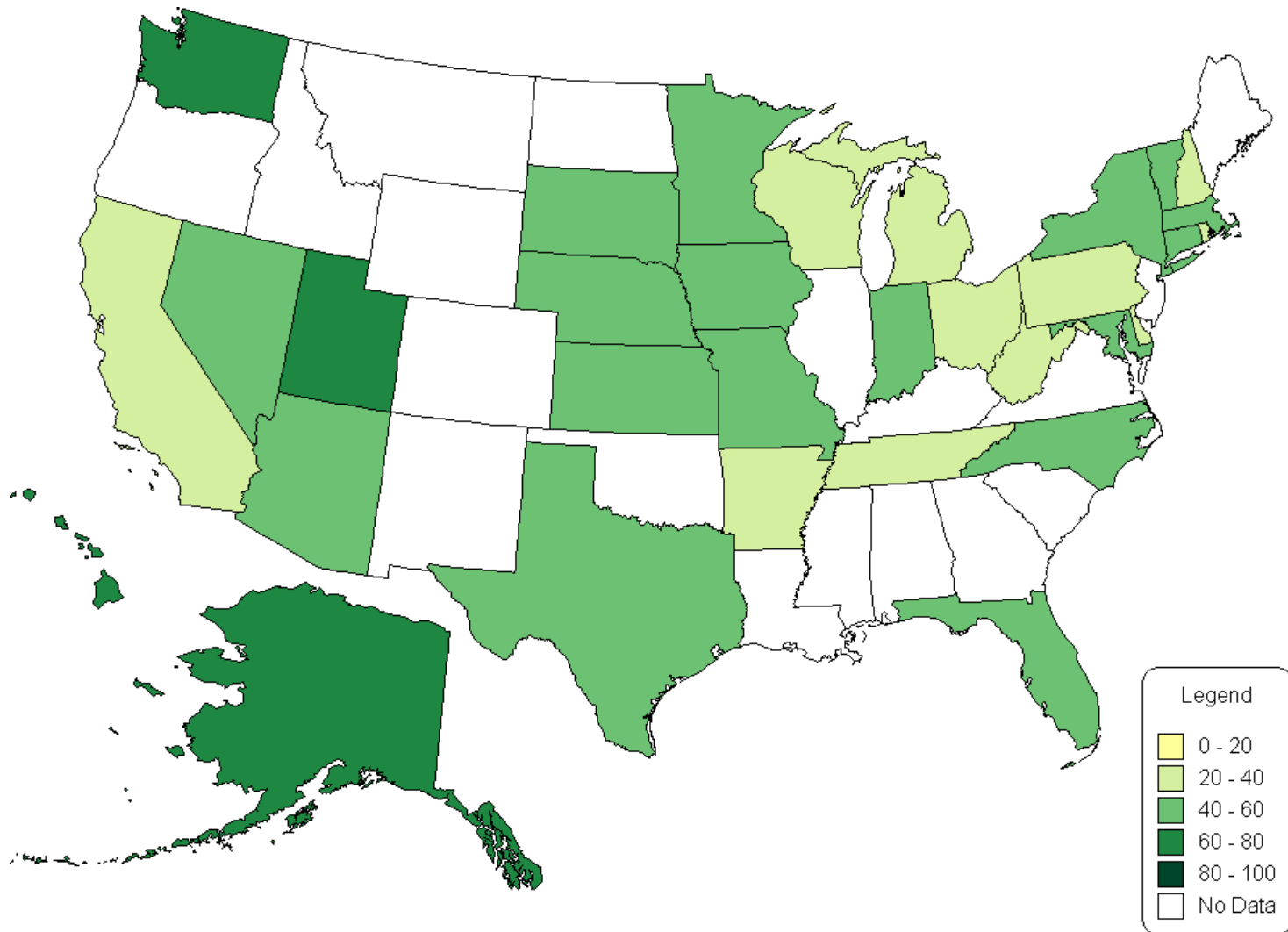
Source: National Survey of WIC Participants II: State and Local Agencies Report

Participant satisfaction is high.



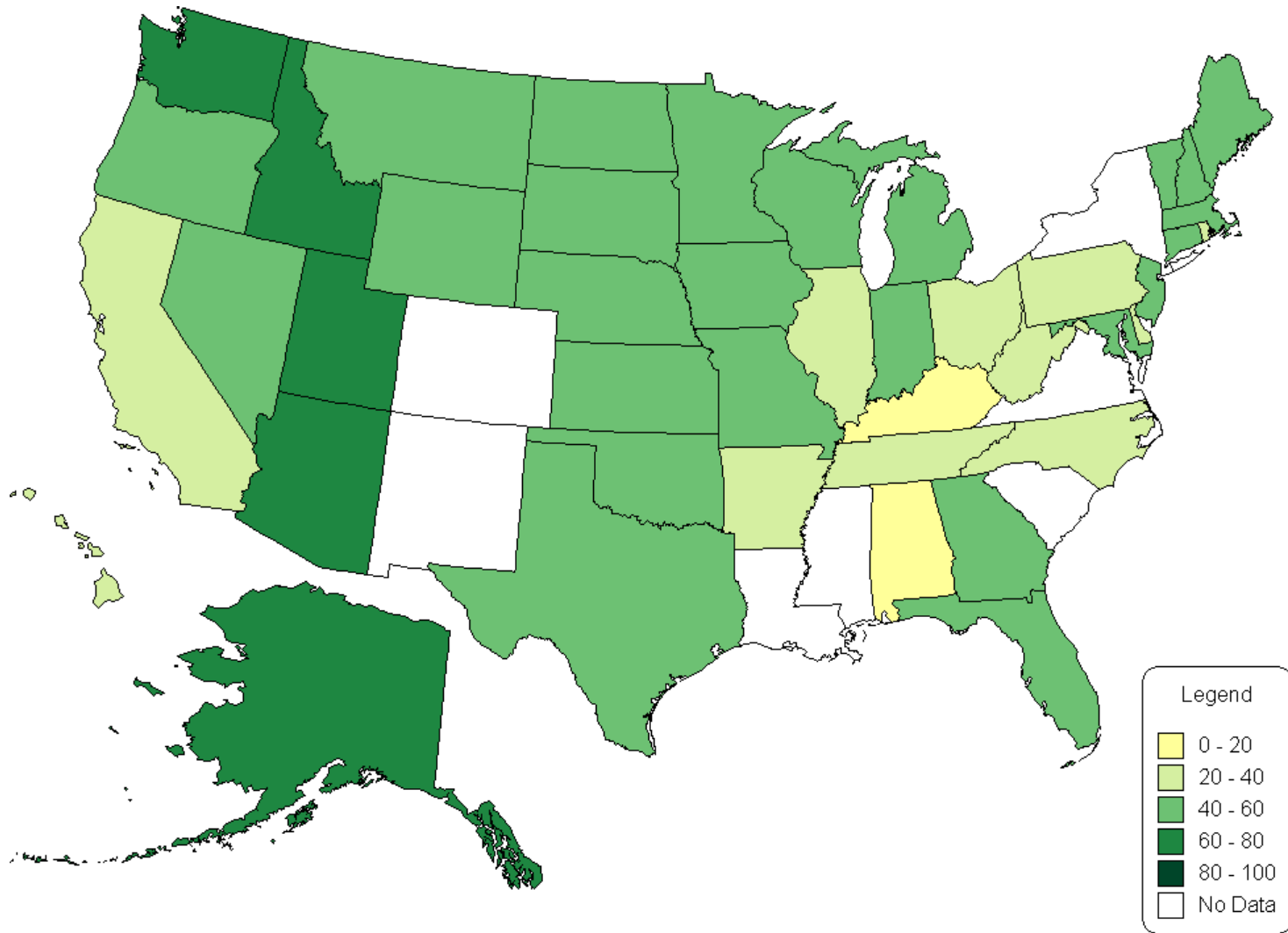
WIC Breastfeeding Initiation Rates 1998

41.5% (7-11mo. Reports by 63 State Agencies)



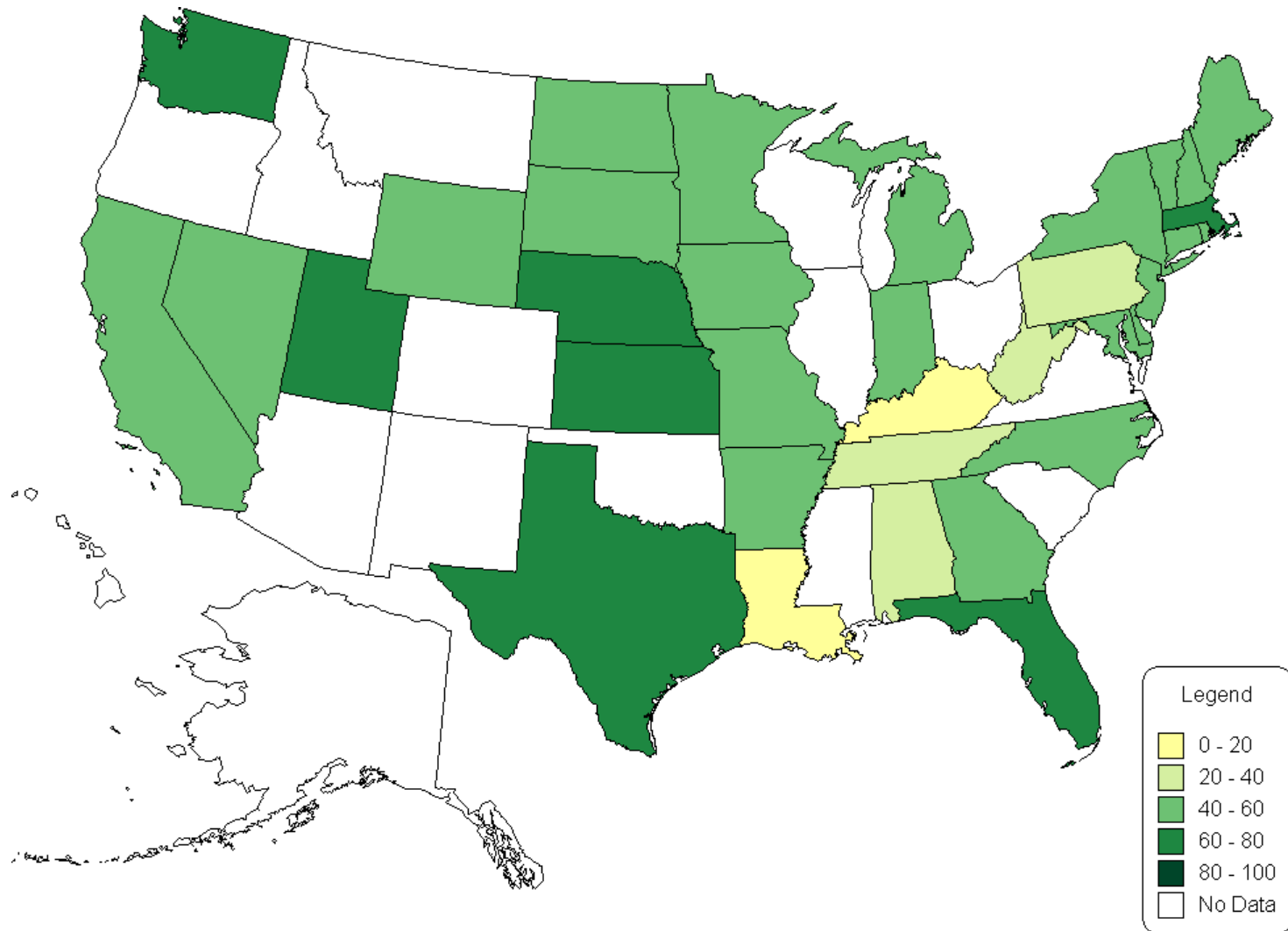
WIC Breastfeeding Initiation Rates 2000

44.5% (7-11mo. Reports by 68 State Agencies)



WIC Breastfeeding Initiation Rates 2002

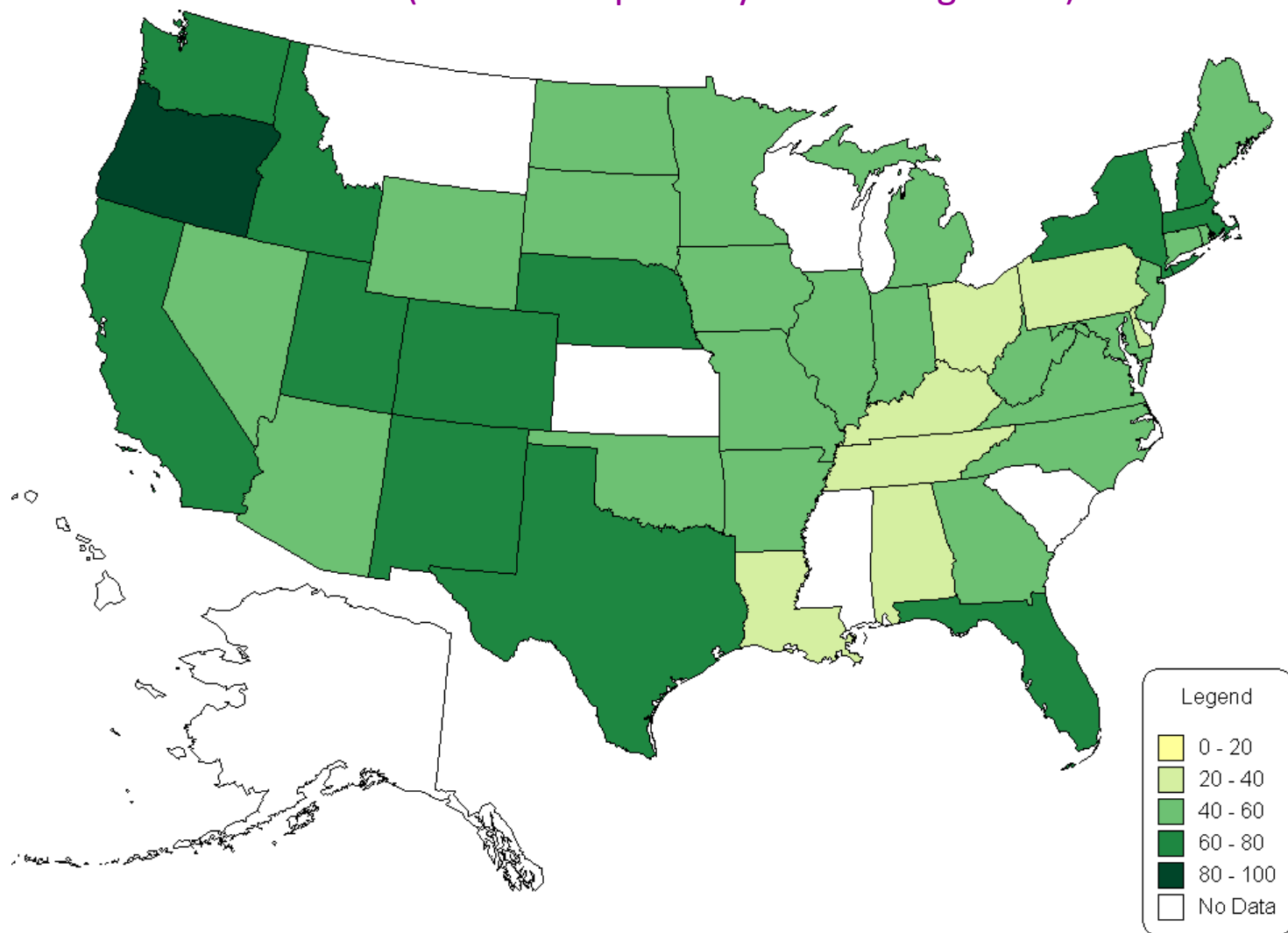
48.3% (7-11mo. Reports by 68 State Agencies)



WIC Breastfeeding Initiation Rates 2004

56.6% (7-11mo. Reports);

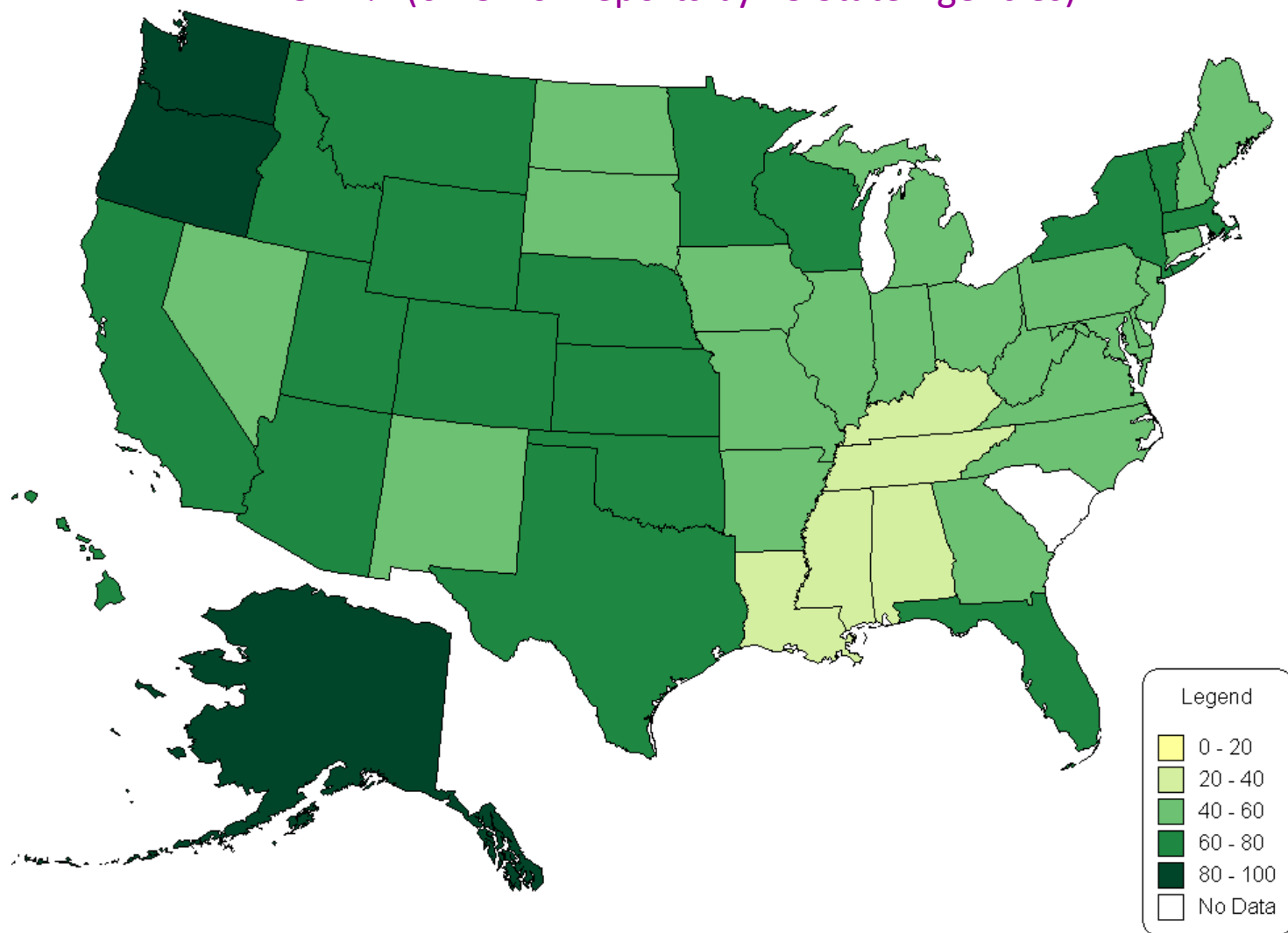
54.6% (6-13mo. Reports by 67 State Agencies)



WIC Breastfeeding Initiation Rates 2006

59.6% (7-11mo. Reports);

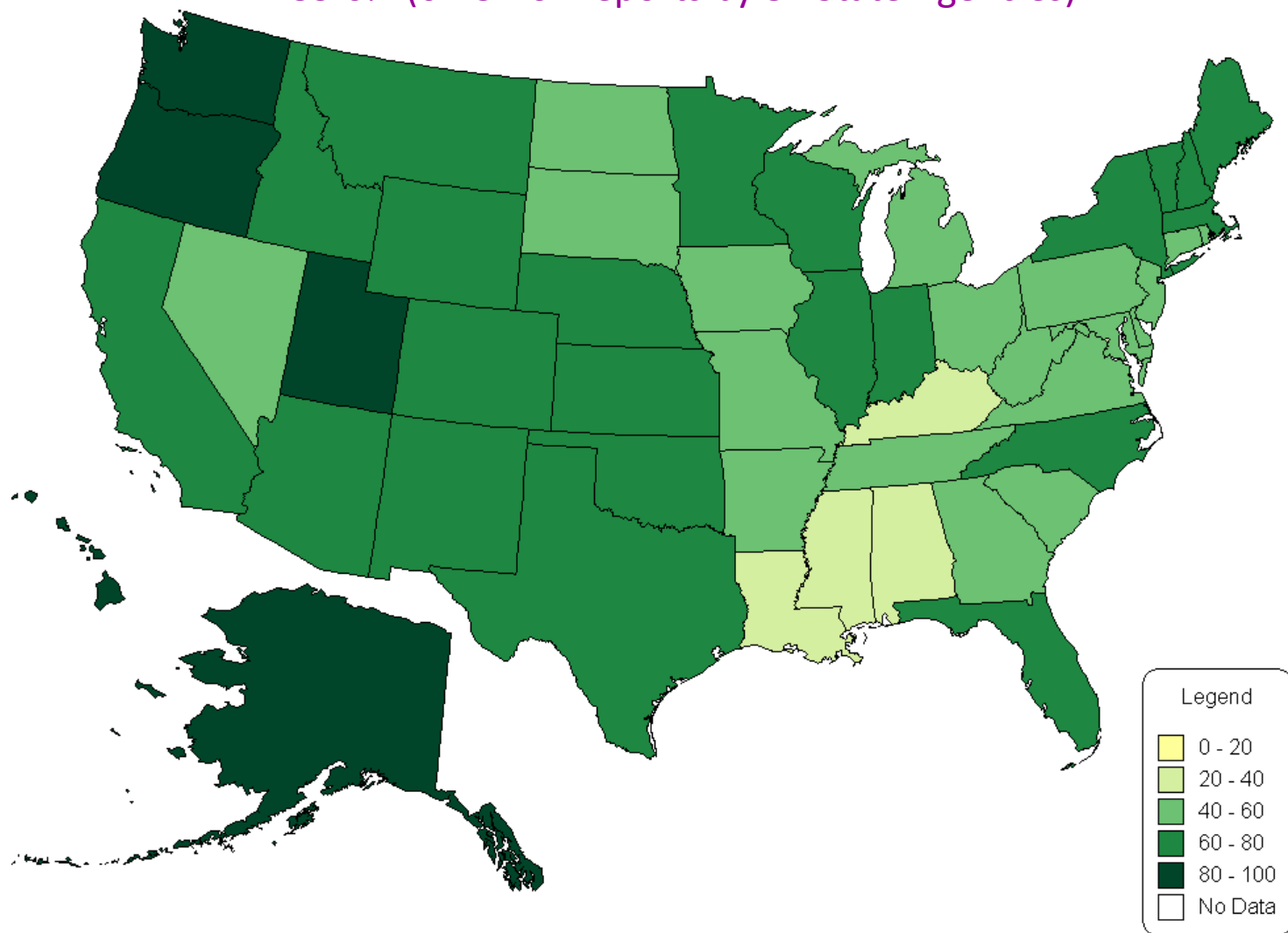
57.7% (6-13mo. Reports by 75 State Agencies)



WIC Breastfeeding Initiation Rates 2008

61.0% (7-11mo. Reports);

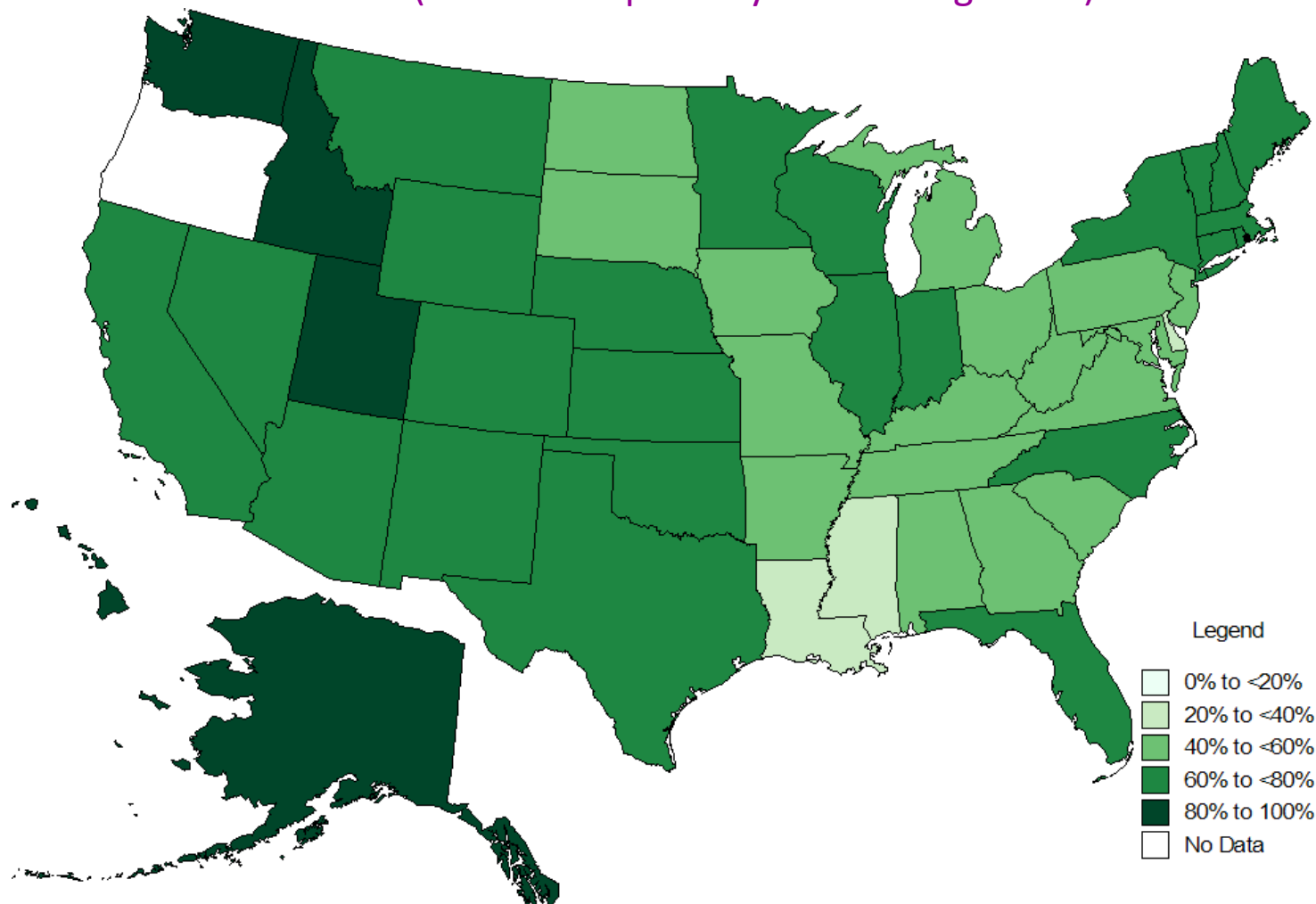
59.0% (6-13mo. Reports by 87 State Agencies)



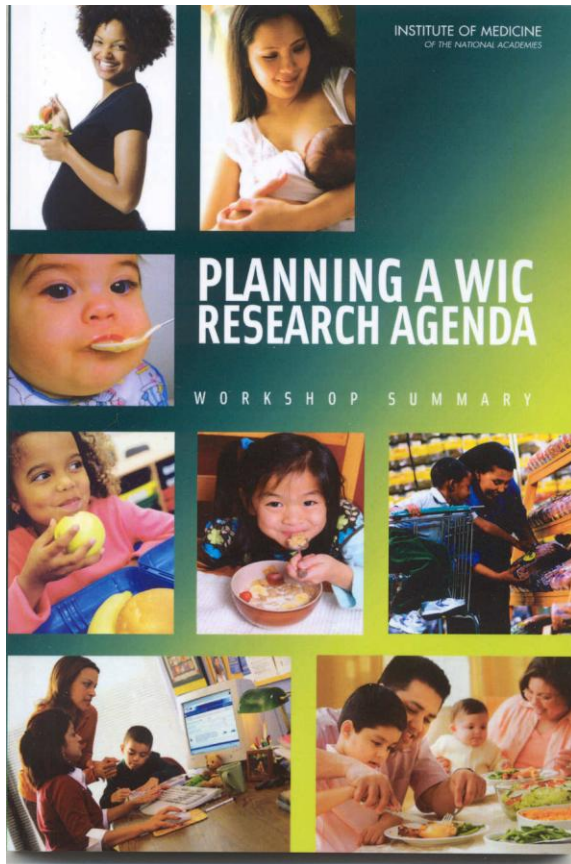
WIC Breastfeeding Initiation Rates 2010

63.9% (7-11mo. Reports);

63.1% (6-13mo. Reports by 87 State Agencies)



Planning a WIC Research Agenda

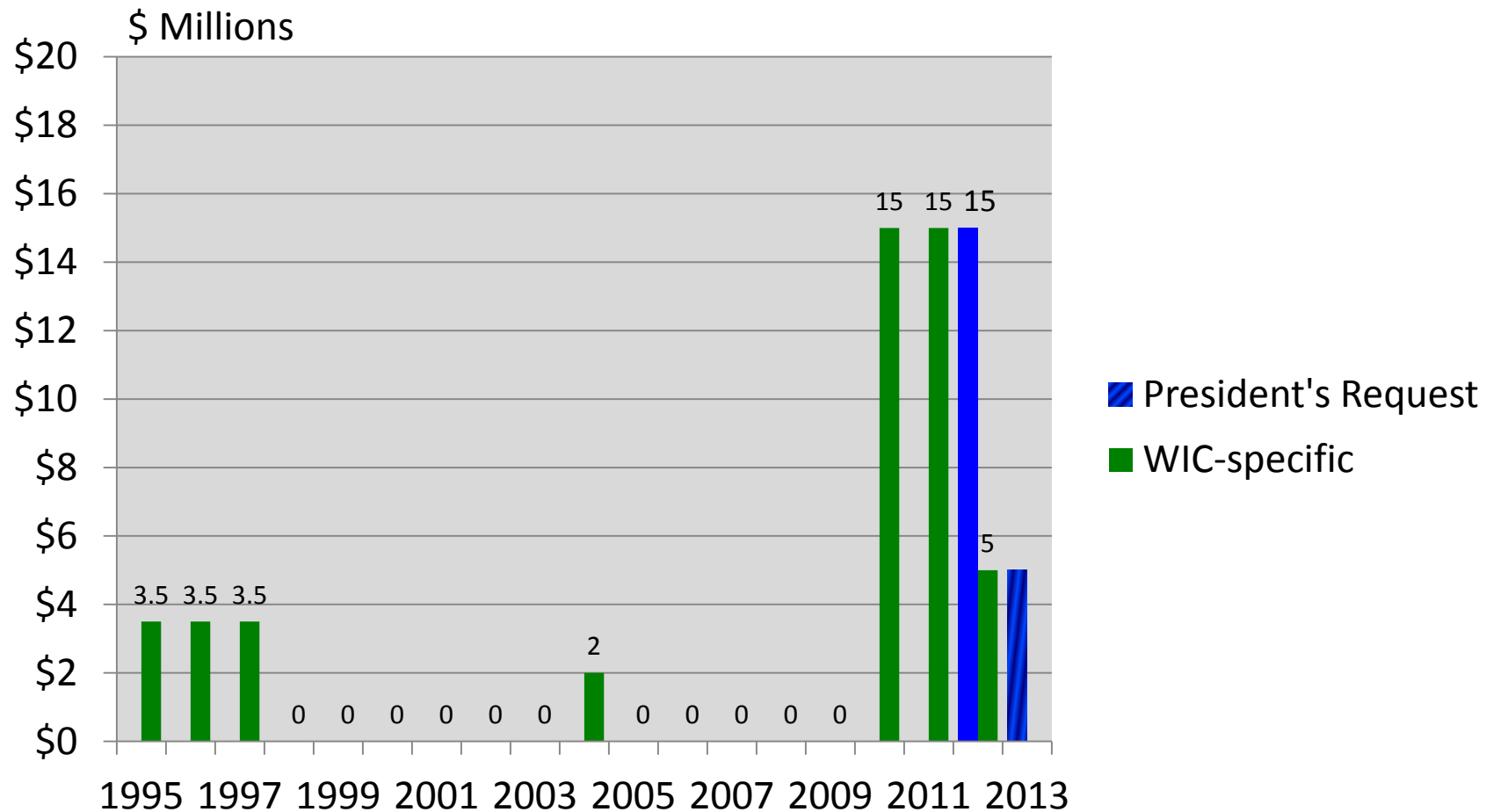


STUDY OBJECTIVES:

- Obtain expert independent input on the future WIC research agenda;
 1. address key research issues
 2. address methodological issues
 3. discuss solutions
- 90 experts met on July 20, 2010
- IOM Summary has been posted on the FNS website

Legislative Funding for WIC R&E and Performance Measurement

The recent funding opened new opportunities



Excludes funding from Nutrition Program Administration Account

WIC Medicaid II

- Objectives
 - Explore the feasibility of replicating the 1991 WIC Medicaid study.
 - Explore WIC cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness for pregnant women, infants, and children.
- Methods
 - Data were collected in Missouri and Oklahoma, including Indian Tribal Organizations in Oklahoma.
- Current Status
 - The data are being analyzed.
 - Results of the feasibility study are expected Spring, 2014.

WIC Nutrition Education and Breastfeeding

- Infant Toddler Feeding Practices Study – 2
- Baylor Center for Nutrition Education Innovations
- Nutrition Education Study
- Local Breastfeeding Policy Inventory
- Breastfeeding Peer Counseling Survey
- Periconceptional Grants

WIC Program Management and Cost

- WIC Participant Characteristics (PC)
- 2011 Eligibles Estimates, National and State
- WIC Nutrition Services and Administrative Costs (NSA)
- Impact of Affordable Care Act (ACA) on WIC
- WIC Medicaid Simulation
- FY 2010 Food Cost Report
- IOM Food Package Review

2010 WIC Eligibles Estimates, National and State

WIC Eligibles and Coverage by Participant Group, CY* 2010				
Participant Group	# Eligible (Millions)	% of All Eligibles	# Participating	Coverage Rate
Infants	2.54	17.4%	2.15	84.8%
Total Children Ages 1-4	9.22	63.4%	4.84	52.4%
Children Age 1 ^a	2.21	15.2%		
Children Age 2 ^a	2.34	16.1%		
Children Age 3 ^a	2.40	16.5%		
Children Age 4 ^a	2.27	15.6%		
Pregnant Women	1.30	9.0%	0.92	70.8%
Postpartum Women	1.49	10.2%	1.20	80.6%
Breastfeeding Women	0.66	4.6%	0.57	85.1%
Nonbreastfeeding Women	0.82	5.6%	0.63	76.9%
All Participant Groups	14.55	100.0%	9.11	62.6%

^a WIC coverage rates for children by single year of age are not provided because participation data are not available by single year of age.

*Calendar Year

Improper Payments Information Act (IPIA) Reporting

(a legislative requirement)

- Vendor Management Report
- High-Risk Vendor Microsimulation
- Peer Group Analysis and Best Practices

Summer EBT for Children

- Objective
 - Determine impact on Food Security of a \$60/child/month EBT benefit for children in NSLP
- Implementation
 - Used the WIC EBT technology in TX, NV, MI, Chickasaw, Cherokee
 - Special food quantities using WIC foods for children (including cash value for WIC fruits & vegetables)
- Findings
 - Reduced Very-Low Food Security among Children by 33%

SNAP Healthy Incentives Pilot (HIP)

- Objective
 - Determine impact on fruit and vegetable consumption of a SNAP incentive -> \$1 SNAP benefits could purchase \$2 of FFV
- Method
 - Randomized, controlled design
 - Massachusetts
- Findings
 - Interim Report: Participants ate 1/5 cup more FFV
 - Final Report: late 2014

Questions & Discussion

- Ideas for new WIC studies?

FNS WIC Studies (summaries and full reports) are on the web at:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/Ora/menu/Published/WIC/WIC.htm>

Many older FNS WIC Studies are on the web at:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/Ora/menu/Published/WIC/WIC-archive.htm>